

FFA Planning Committee

Present. Milt. Donna Woolam Elena Hovagimian David Hobson. Dustyn Nelson. Janet norm Hammond
Jim pomeroy. Andrew zadora. Harrison griffin dr Parker. Harold mackin

Meeting called to order at 9:35.

Minutes.

Accepted

Treasurers report

Ken Parker distributed the financial statement. There was 33453.74 as of October 31, 2013 Items need to be purchased.

Motion to accept treasurers report was made by dr Seconded Motion passes

Reports

See attached.

Donna. It was reported that the big e spends 90,000 National report. See attached There was discussion regarding the national booth. It was not what was expected. No brochures explaining what was FFA. And lack of promotion. Harrison wants booth moved. Needs more people doing something in the booth. More guidelines for participating in corsage making. Marching in the parade. Instructions need to be more clear. Revise to make it more effective. Needs to have more student interaction. Farm a Rama is getting revision. 600,000 people went through farm a Rama.

Needs to bring interAction to the forefront. Dustyn Nelson. Harrison Griffin. Moved to new business

FFA coordinators report

Judging card.com has an online scoring system. But we will need a scantron machine \$1 per sheet

Evaluate state officer sign ups

Agriscience displays Friday and Saturday to participate in the corsage booth.

FFA assistant coordinator.

Pageant admission is a problem. Circus is no longer a fit for the stars pageant. Stars parents mixed in with general admission.

Dustyn and Katelyn will look into improving the location placement.

Flag placement will need to be evaluated.

Superintendent reports

Safe tractor. Well run event. Easy Transition

Landscape exhibits

Judging card problems. Farmarama staff commended. Wants to go. Back to old way

Creed speaking. Location and logistics previous event was going over in time. Moving the event to the Sheraton good. And what time.

Judges comments to be returned to kids for events that apply. Put judges comment form as part of cdes.

Pageant state officers can't be doing awards banquet

Stars

Karen Murphy and Jim Putnam are to be commended.

Vet tech. Awarded a grant of \$750 from zoitusus.

Floriculture. Problems w space. Dustin. Storage was hard to come by in the Farmarama.

Students. Tables broken down too early. Needs to add time on to the end of the. Dustin to coordinate with Donna re pickup time.

Discussion regarding scoring person review. Donna to contact Doug regarding continuing scoring.

Old business

Medical emergencies for supers. Donna to work on.

Asst Big e coordinator. Donna can budget something for the position. Process is up to ESE in terms of hiring.

Agriscience. Harold has more time to come. Jan 1 deadline. Exhibition or a competition? FFA Friday. National cde has dimensions. Changing display throughout the day.

48"x deep30x108. Harold and Donna to work together

Landscape themes.

2015 - native plants

2016- 1916 landscape design

Floral arrangements

2015 - Eco friendly

2016 - celebrate 100 years of The Big E

Greg Breene and Dave Lewis need 10 years of service award. To be presented at the 2014 ri trustee event. Donation to foundation to be taken care of by dr Parker

Stars stipend participation \$250 and awards \$500. Motioned seconded. Action passes

Judges. Information needs to be in 2 weeks before the event.

Election of officers.

Next meeting date. Nov 4,2014

Meeting is adjourned.

BIG E FFA Coordinators Report
November 5, 2013

- ☐ Brian Walsh of Virginia, an agribusiness major at Virginia Tech, was elected National FFA President in November 2013 at the National FFA Convention in Louisville KY. Brian served as a BIG E FFA Intern in 2012.
- ☐ The FFA member participation this year was similar to last year and need to continue work in getting other states not represented at least participate in the Stars Program. I talked with several states and with limited staff and they indicated it is difficult to work with schools in getting them to participate. In several cases cost was a factor by local school districts.
- ☐ Interns: Six interns worked at the BIG E this year, they came from Virginia, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Vermont. Each did an outstanding job in executing their duties as needed. Kaylyn Morrill from Connecticut was instrumental in getting the interns from the airport to BIG E and hotel as well as the National FFA Officer, Joenelle Futrell from Kentucky. Because of delay with flights the State FFA President from PA, Christopher Toevs attended the Rotary Club luncheon and spoke on behalf of the BIGE FFA.
- ☐ Online registrations: We continue to use Judgingcard.com for registration and slowly issues are being resolved.
- ☐ The landscape exhibits continue to be a highlight of the Farm-A-Rama building. We had five entries this year.
- ☐ The floral design competition went very well and the most effective way to receive entries needs to be addressed for this year.
- ☐ There was maximum attendance at the Sheraton this year (700) which was great, but there is no room for additional students and advisors.
- ☐ Positive comments were received from the CDE Superintendents at the conclusion of their events and it appears.
- ☐ Doug Cottrill was hired to run the computerized scoring process. He needed additional support as he had never done this before and some of the results were delayed. Overall, the results were available for the banquet and things worked out just fine. We had to have two interns work with him, as we had done with Mr. Odgen.
- ☐ State FFA Officer Assignments: A much better job was done this year in scheduling officers at CDE events.

- ☐ Several opportunities exist for assistant superintendents.
- ☐ FFA Workday the Saturday before has only had one chapter participate in the past and additional chapters are encouraged to assist.
- ☐ The Superintendents dinner was well represented by CDE staff and guests at the new location in the Italian Pavilion.
- ☐ Elena and Donna are to be commended, as well as others who provided assistance to the FFA at the BIG E. Their patience, dedication and hard work helped make FFA days a success.
- ☐ The banquet went very well this past year with the help of Norm and Janet Hammond, who coordinated this event.
- ☐ We need to review the comments from the Superintendents several months before the BIG E to make sure we are accommodating their needs.
- ☐ A better method of identifying judges for the various events needs to be established to ensure accuracy of judges who did participate as well the payment process.
- ☐ Thank you note cards were provided to the interns and Star applicants to thank the many sponsors of events. This really worked well and should be expanded to other CDE areas.
- ☐ The interns also were provided some personalized items to assist them with their duties.
- ☐ National FFA editor for the FFA New Horizon magazine attended this year's BIG E and took many pictures and interviewed many people. A major article will be coming out in the winter edition of the New Horizons magazine.

- ☐ Laminate names tags were provided with lanyards to all CDE Superintendents, Asst Superintendents and judges so they could be easily identified by students, spectators and others.

- ☐ Additional supplies and materials for all CDE's need to be purchased and made available to Superintendents.

- ☐ Agriscience displays should be included in Fridays Farm-A-Rama showcase in the floral design booth.

- ☐ There still is a need for an assistant for the BIG E FFA Coordinator as the tasks and demands are becoming more challenging and to have someone able to step in to assume roles if the need arises is essential.

Other states comments:

Pennsylvania

Overall, all positive comments from my teachers and students.

A couple of our State Officers were told they were not really needed to help with CDE's – That was frustrating. . . Sorry, I don't remember which ones.

If the CDE supers don't want or need their help, they should let us know before they sign up!! Maybe we could reinforce their participation as helpers!!??

The Stars presentation entrance for spectators was a little disturbing. . . When we arrived to get in line – the folks at the tent said they knew nothing about the event! We got in ok – Just a little disturbing to begin with. If we could get two lines at the tent before that show – One for circus people and one for FFA – That would be awesome!!

Thanks for all you do.

Mike

Mike Brammer | Executive Director
Pennsylvania Association of FFA
PAAE Executive Secretary
NASAE Secretary
2301 N. Cameron St. | Harrisburg, PA 17110

Vermont

The only comments that I have heard about the Big E are: the banquet food is awful and the hotels are way too expensive.

Respectfully submitted,

Milt Natusch
BIG E FFA Coordinator

Eastern States Exposition
FFA Planning Committee
West Springfield, MA

Nov. 6, 2013

RE : FFA Stars Report

On September 14, 2013 the FFA Stars Program was conducted with twenty-three star participants from eleven north-eastern states participating. Thirteen knowledgeable judges from five states conducted interviews and reviewed the SAE records of applicants in four categories. Congratulations to the following winning Stars for 2013: Agricultural Placement – Mary Hammock (Gretna, Virginia), Agriscience – Whitney Bowman (Mt.Jackson , Virginia), Farmer – Scarlett Abell (Lebanon, Connecticut), Agribusiness - Chelsea Kegler(Mansfield, Connecticut). Star candidates submitted applications prior to August 1 and were each interviewed on September 14. Stars, parents and advisors attended a delicious luncheon in Old Storowton Tavern and later in the afternoon participated in an awards ceremony before The Big E Circus audience.

Special thanks go to the Farm Credit National Contributions Program and Farm Credit East who sponsors this event. Special thanks also go to the Big E for their continued support. I would like to especially thank Mr. James Putnam, Senior Vice President of Farm Credit East for his personal involvement as a judge and representative of Farm Credit. Also judging from Farm Credit East was Karen Murphy, VP and Director of Communication. I would also give a special thanks to The New England Grange for the use of their facility and great refreshments.

We are very pleased to have an assistant Stars coordinator - Harold Mackin, Connecticut Ag Education Consultant.

I am very pleased to announce that with the coordination and support of Farm Credit East we applied and have received a grant contribution from the National Farm Credit System in the amount of \$10,000.

The following are my concerns for this Big E FFA Stars Program:

- ☐ I am very pleased to see the increased funding of this program by the Farm Credit System – we as consultants and teachers need to thank our Farm Credit contributors.

Ms. Christina Bowen
Director, Farm Credit Contributions
7951 E. Maplewood Ave, Suite 225
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

James Putnam, Executive Vice President
Farm Credit East
174 South Road,
Enfield, CT 06082

- ☐ The new format using the Big E Star Application, Copy of Applicant's State Winning Application, Resume and Supplemental Material at applicant's discretion (maximum 2 pages) seemed to work well.
- ☐ We need to work to have more applicants from more states. Participating contestants were from the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Virginia.
- ☐ I would encourage more participation in the Ag Science competition.
- ☐ More judges are needed from more states. Please send suggestions to Mr. Natusch or myself (griffinfarm@aol.com).
- ☐ Great pictures of the Star candidates and Stars are available on the Big E website – please use them for State publicity.
- ☐ The monetary awards for stipends and stars should be increased. The present award level is: participation stipend - \$100, star award - \$300.

Sincerely,

B.Harrison Griffin, Stars Program Superintendent

Comments from the Director of Agriculture and Education
For FFA Planning Committee, November 2013

On behalf of the Exposition and the staff of the department I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to all the folks involved with the 2013 FFA Activities. Your dedication of time and other resources is greatly valued by ESE.

As in every year the Exposition was very pleased to be able to host the young people chosen as interns. In 2013 we offered several internships and we are pleased to be able to accommodate these young people as they are an intricate part of staging this program. As in previous years they represented FFA at the pre-opening ESE Media party. The National officer this year attended Springfield Rotary and The Green Pastures dinner on Friday.

This year, on December 1st, we will remove from the website the 2013 CDE information. Changes from the Supt. should be made in Dec., so that by Jan 1, 2014, we may begin posting the 2014 CDE information. Elena will notify you 1 week before we remove your CDE so that you will have time to get updates done. **Changes that come out of National can be made on the web as we are notified by the Supt. I cannot emphasize the need to get this information to us in a timely manner. It is our hope that Superintendents will respect this time frame and Elena's other commitment needs and get this information to her in the timeline stated.**

The Exposition was attended by over 1.481 million people this year. It is our intention to continue to support the current FFA events in 2014.

Respectively submitted:
Donna G. Woolam
Director of Agriculture and Education

Eastern States Exposition
FFA Planning Committee
West Springfield, MA

Nov. 6, 2013

RE : FFA Stars Report

On September 14, 2013 the FFA Stars Program was conducted with twenty-three star participants from eleven north-eastern states participating. Thirteen knowledgeable judges from five states conducted interviews and reviewed the SAE records of applicants in four categories. Congratulations to the following winning Stars for 2013: Agricultural Placement – Mary Hammock (Gretna, Virginia), Agriscience – Whitney Bowman (Mt. Jackson, Virginia), Farmer – Scarlett Abell (Lebanon, Connecticut), Agribusiness - Chelsea Kegler (Mansfield, Connecticut). Star candidates submitted applications prior to August 1 and were each interviewed on September 14. Stars, parents and advisors attended a delicious luncheon in Old Storowton Tavern and later in the afternoon participated in an awards ceremony before The Big E Circus audience.

Special thanks go to the Farm Credit National Contributions Program and Farm Credit East who sponsors this event. Special thanks also go to the Big E for their continued support. I would like to especially thank Mr. James Putnam, Senior Vice President of Farm Credit East for his personal involvement as a judge and representative of Farm Credit. Also judging from Farm Credit East was Karen Murphy, VP and Director of Communication. I would also give a special thanks to The New England Grange for the use of their facility and great refreshments.

We are very pleased to have an assistant Stars coordinator - Harold Mackin, Connecticut Ag Education Consultant.

I am very pleased to announce that with the coordination and support of Farm Credit East we applied and have received a grant contribution from the National Farm Credit System in the amount of \$10,000.

The following are my concerns for this Big E FFA Stars Program:

- I am very pleased to see the increased funding of this program by the Farm Credit System – we as consultants and teachers need to thank our Farm Credit contributors.

Ms. Christina Bowen
Director, Farm Credit Contributions
7951 E. Maplewood Ave, Suite 225
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

James Putnam, Executive Vice President
Farm Credit East
174 South Road,
Enfield. CT 06082

- The new format using the Big E Star Application, Copy of Applicant's State Winning Application, Resume and Supplemental Material at applicant's discretion (maximum 2 pages) seemed to work well.
- We need to work to have more applicants from more states. Participating contestants were from the following states: Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Virginia.
- I would encourage more participation in the Ag Science competition.
- More judges are needed from more states. Please send suggestions to Mr. Natusch or myself (griffinfarm@aol.com).
- Great pictures of the Star candidates and Stars are available on the Big E website – please use them for State publicity.
- The monetary awards for stipends and stars should be increased. The present award level is: participation stipend - \$100, star award - \$300.

Sincerely,

B.Harrison Griffin, Stars Program Superintendent

Report of the Creed Speaking CDE

At the 2013 Big "E"

The event began with the signing in process 20 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time. Nine of the eleven students who registered reported to participate. The order of presentation was determined randomly. Coaches were given that information and students were sequestered.

A serious problem arose when the event scheduled for the Moses Auditorium prior to the Creed event ran overtime. The person in charge of the event never came out of the room to provide us with an approximation of the concluding time. Volunteers just kept saying that they needed to do yet another round. This went on for about an hour and our event finally relocated to the New Hampshire Building.

The Creed Speaking CDE should not be assigned to a location that is so unreliable. This has happened previously but not to such a distracting extent.

Once relocated, the event proceeded in a timely fashion. The results were verified and reported to the scoring department.

After the event, this superintendent was approached by one of the coaches and asked for a copy of the score sheets for his student after the banquet. I explained that this was not the event practice. He later followed up with an e-mail. Do most of the events provide copies of the score sheets? Maybe we need to discuss this.

While I find the Creed Speaking CDE to be a very worthwhile opportunity for first year FFA members and would like to see it continue at the Big "E", I don't think it is in the best interest of the students to be shuffled around and waiting for the event to start.

Janet Hammond – Supt.

Superintendents Report

Big "E" FFA 2013

Landscape Exhibits

1. The Judgingcard.com is too confusing. I had Nursery teams registering and a team that wanted to do a Landscape Exhibit miss out because they registered in the Nursery/Landscape event by mistake. I suggest we go back to the old system of registering by sending a form to me and/or Milt for this event.
2. We should go out at least 3 years with the themes because some states have early deadlines for choosing their winners.
3. Suggested themes are attached. (suggested by judges and teachers)

Floral Design Exhibits

1. The same problem with Judgingcard.com. Plus the old registration form for Floral Design had all the necessary names and addresses for the mailing out of the prize money. This year was extremely difficult getting names and addresses. Again, registration should be through Milt and/or myself.
2. Thanks to the Farm-a-rama staff for making adjustments when more arrangements then scheduled came in. They did a super job.
3. Again, we should go out 3 years with the Floral Design Exhibit themes. (Should we try to tie them to the Landscape Exhibits??)
4. Suggested themes are attached. (suggested by judges and teachers)

Awards Banquet

1. Kudos to the FFA Interns for being able to get all the awards labeled and in place in time. Thanks to Milt's smart phone we were able to get the last few results during dinner and the interns were able to make out the awards roster. We need a better way to get information to the Sheraton in a timely manner.
2. State Officers who make up the Banquet Officers need to realize that they can not participate in the Parade on Saturday afternoon. Fortunately, the Vice President of Virginia FFA stepped in to fill out the officer team at the last minute.
3. We did not have result for the Sweepstakes banner this year. If we want to continue with this award we need to get the scoring worked out in time.

2013 Big E Report – National FFA Organization – Kevin Keith

To The Members of the FFA Planning Committee and Staff of The Big E:

My Sincerest apologies for not being able to be with you all. I am working with student teachers today at Penn State University in State College, PA, and was unable to attend the meeting this year.

The National FFA Organization participants in the Eastern States Exposition for 2013 included Josh Bledsoe, Chief Operating Officer; Katy Mumaw, Head Content Writer; Joenelle Futrell, Eastern Region FFA Vice President; Nick Radivan, Sales and Development Manager and Kevin Keith, Local Program Success Specialist. Frank Ordonez, a staff photographer from Farm Journal Publications (the publisher of our 'New Horizons' magazine) was also present during Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14 to take photos to support the work of Katy Mumaw as she gathered information for future articles in our FFA publications.

Josh and Katy received an excellent tour of the Big E grounds and activities on Saturday, provided by Big E interns. They were very favorably impressed and learned a tremendous amount about the Big E, the FFA competitions and the history of this very special event and the very special support provided to FFA members and chapters for so many years. While on this tour, they were able to meet briefly with Donna Woolam in the Mallory Building and they appreciate Donna taking her time from her very busy day to meet with him. Prior to serving as our COO, Josh, was an Ag Education Teacher and State Staff member in North Carolina and had always wanted to attend (and compete) in the Big E and he was so happy to be able to have this experience and he hopes to return again in the future. Katy took the opportunity to interview several teachers and students throughout the Big E and plans to be using information collected in future stories for our FFA Publications.

Josh and Kevin were able to serve as judges for the FFA Marketing Plan Competition and Kevin also served as a judge for the Star Farmer Award competition. It is always a pleasure for our staff to get to meet our talented members and get to know them better and see the tremendous skills they have developed through their local agricultural education programs and supervised agriculture experience programs.

Josh, Katy, Joenelle and Kevin attended the superintendent's dinner on Friday afternoon and enjoyed meeting the folks that conduct the various FFA competitive events held during the Big E. Our thanks and congratulations to this group!! They also attended the Star's Luncheon and Awards presentation on Saturday afternoon, and enjoyed meeting the advisors, members and their families, as well as the judges and superintendent's of this unique competitive event.

Nick Radivan managed our first ever National FFA Booth at the 2013 Big E. He was assisted by Big E interns, State FFA Officers and members of local FFA Chapters as well as members of the Penn State Collegiate FFA Chapter, who assisted in answering questions about Agricultural Education, the FFA, and set up a display and promoted teaching agricultural education as a career through their "Teach Ag" program. Nick was extremely pleased with this first ever foray into such a booth and on behalf of the entire organization, we would like to thank the Eastern States Exposition staff and planning committee

for this opportunity, especially Donna, Elena, and Milt, for all their cooperation, efforts and support of our booth. We know that having this booth on site, especially for only two days of the Big E was an extra burden for the Big E staff and Nick and I invite suggestions and feedback related any future such opportunity that might be available to us. Nick commented that a lot more of an effort needs to be put forward to provide handout materials and information about Agricultural Education and FFA to those attending the Big E and visiting the Farm A Rama. He further asked me to be certain to include special thanks to the state officers, local members and collegiate members who assisted with the booth and provision of information about FFA and Agricultural Education.

Josh, Katy, Joenelle and Kevin all attended the FFA Awards Banquet on Saturday evening and both Joenelle and Josh addressed the members, advisors and state leaders in attendance. They were very impressed with the efficiency of the event, especially considering the large number of attendees and recognitions presented during this honors program.

Should anyone have additional questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Keith, LPS Specialist, Northeastern United States

317 709 0806

kkeith@ffa.org